LETTER

FROM

SOME-BODY,

TO THE

Free and Independent Voters

OF THE

CITY of *DUBLIN.*

DUBLIN:

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A LETTER, &c.

GENTLEMEN,

HAD I a Name that would impreſs a *Sterling* Stamp upon Advice, as did formerly that of *M. B.* Draper, I would let it be known, and give it to the News-boys to roar it out, as loud as they pleaſed, to recommend the Sale of my Letter, as I ſend it abroad, with a Deſire, that it may get into many Hands, and have the Influence it aims at.— But as I am conſcious that my real particular Name bears no Sway, I addreſs myſelf to you, by the Title of SOME BODY, which is a Character that may be aſſumed by EVERY BODY, without ſetting up for, or pretending to be ANY BODY, *i. e.* of Conſequence; — and while I keep my own Counſel, and by no other Appellation am known, whether I pleaſe THIS BODY or THAT BODY, tho' I would be ſorry to offend any GOOD BODY, I need care for the Cenſure of NO BODY.

Thus much for my PREFACE, and now to proceed, which, though you know not what I am going to offer, you are, beforehand, pretty well aſſured, is ſomething in Relation to the Election of a Member to repreſent you in Parliament — I think the Method generally taken to influence your Votes and Intereſt, is, to point out this or that Candidate, as the Perſon preferably to others, of Ability and Honeſty, to take care of your Intereſts and ſerve you in the Houſe — But this method I ſhall not obſerve, becauſe, I believe, in my Conſcience, that no Perſon you will chooſe, be he ever ſo WISE, POLITICK and HONEST, or OTHERWISE SILLY and KNAVISH, will either be of Service or Prejudice to you; — ſo that with a View to what may be hoped or dreaded from the Conduct of your Repreſentative to be choſen, you may put all the Candidates Names in a BAG, with a thouſand more, and after well ſhaking it, let the firſt or laſt drawn Name, be that of the happy Man, who is to be mounted up in the Chair, and carried from the *Tholſel* to *Colledge-green*.

Perhaps you will ſay, what then, is it a Matter of ſuch Indifference, whom we ſhall elect? — I give it indeed as my Opinion that it is, that is, if your View is confined to what Service will be done for you, in the Parliamentary way. — But as another Conſideration, may take Place, I do not think it altogether a Matter of Indifference, becauſe tho' the Point of being really benefitted by your Repreſentative, be given up, you may chooſe ſuch a one as would be a SCANDAL and a DISGRACE to you, and ſuch

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I verily think it would be to have Mr. *L-c-s* for your Choice. — Upon your reading thus far, methinks I see some of his Party, (for there are some thoughtless People of his Side,) riggling with Impatience, till they know my Reasons, for having such a barbarous Thought of the poor Man.

Why, indeed, one of my Reasons, (for I have a good many of them) is, because he is a POOR Man, and Ambition in a POOR Man is *ridiculous*, when it is but barely to be seen, but it is hateful and not to be endured, when it carries him to aim at being exalted so far above his Fellows, as to be placed in the highest Seat of Honour, that any Person, inferior to a Lord, can be lifted up to.

To attempt so to raise himself, is certainly the greatest Indignity and Affront he can offer the Community, and for any one to encourage or lend them an helping Hand, if it be not done thro' Thoughtlessness, it must be thro' malicious Sport, for some or all of these three Reasons, either to render more contemptible the vain Presumer, according to the Proverb of the *Climbing Monkey*, or, for a Banter on the Hon. House of Commons, where the several Members that Sit, are, in the general, the most eminent and wealthy Men, from all Parts of the Kingdom, and who therefore might take offence to see one associated into their Fellowship, whom many of them would disdain to set down with their Dogs; or, to render the City of *Dublin*, a Jest and Laughing-stock to all its Neighbours, in fixing on so mean a Representative.

If such Frolicks are ever to be play'd in the Choice of a Parliament Man, I hope the Metropolis of our Kingdom will not be so unmindful of its Dignity, as to begin the silly Farce. — If it was of any great Use, to have a Speecher in the House, the Man we send thither to speak for us, ought certainly to be pretty easy in the Circumstances of his Fortune; because, they that can live independant, and with some degree of Affluence, have generally more Freedom and Boldness of Speech than others, and to such, Respect will be had, and Attention given. It is true, Mr. *L-c-s*, such as his Talent for speeching is, wants for nothing to make him bold, in the Delivery of himself. To do him Justice, he has Volubility of Tongue enough, and Courage more than sufficient to let it run; — but however patiently he may be heard in a Corporation-Hall, he would not be attended to in a Parliament House. His Harangues there, if born with, would yet be of no Significance; for such a mean Man as he is, can only have Weight and recommend himself to the Notice and Re-

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gard of his betters, by Humility; but little of that is to be hoped for in him, whose Poverty is poisoned with Ambition — Methinks, I again see some of the impatient Riglers, before mention'd, triumphing at the Advantage I have afforded them, and saying, 'What must a Man be 'upbraided for his Poverty, and thereby be thought unqualified to serve his Country, God be praised, We 'have Scripture against such Doctrine, and know where 'it is written, of a poor Man that saved a City.' Indeed I think a POOR MAN, that is so very Ambitious as the Man we are speaking of, ought to be discouraged by all Means that would mortify him, and particularly be twitted with that very Circumstance, that makes his Ambition appear the most monstrous. Thank God, his Country wants no Service from him but to live peaceably, and do his Duty in that Station of Life, wherein he is, and our City is in no danger from any Attempts to its Prejudice, that will be made on it, in Parliament, whether or no, he or any other be there to take care of its Interests. — But to let you see that I have read the Text, it was by his WISDOM, that the POOR Man, in Holy Writ, saved the City; so that Mr. *L-c-s*, if Attempts were made on us, seems not capable to save us, for surely he can have no WISDOM, who has all along shewn so little MODESTY and DISCRETION; wherefore, to go through with the Text, as no one remember'd that POOR MAN, so I hope, that in the Time of Election, no body will think of our poor Candidate.

Another Reason that I have for objecting to Mr. *L-c-s*, is, that he is an Apothecary, and, for Goodness sake, what can prompt such a one to desire to get into Parliament, unless it be thought, as in the Time of the Usurpation it was said in *England*, that the House wants to be PURGED. But nobody will dare now to say the Word, in the Sense it was then used; and, in the other, it is but reasonable, that the Members should be allow'd to choose their own Doctor, and it would be impertinent for the City of *Dublin* to attempt to palm one on them, how skilful soever their Candidate may be in that Profession. — It is well known, that Apothecaries are exempted from serving in certain Offices, and being impannell'd on Juries; but this is not an Indulgence in Honour to them, as it is to some others, that have the same Priviledge. They are exempted, because, if they were engaged in other Respects, than those belonging to their Calling, they might be out of the Way, when Persons, afflicted with Maladies, would want their Medicines, and be hinder'd

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from giving their Assistance. — This shews the Impropriety of sending an Apothecary to Parliament, where, if he did his Duty, he must be often from home, especially every second Winter, and so out of the Way of following the Business, whereby he is to provide Bread for his Family. — I dare say his Customers would not be pleased, nor have Patience to wait while one ran to the Parliament-house, to call him to the Shop; nor would it be comely, for his Apprentice, or Journeyman, to hasten thither every now and then, to call out the Master, and demand of him, how many Drops, Grains, or Scruples should be put in such a Dose. —

I hope the Apothecaries will not be offended, at my thus reckoning any trading Member of their Corporation, as disqualified for a Seat in Parliament. If they are, I will tell them a story, that I hope will bring me off.

Alderman *Thomas Quin*, who had in his House a great many Bottles, and Jars, painted and letter'd, (by which Periphrasis, you may guess at his Trade,) served the City in the High Office of Lord Mayor. He discharged himself, with great Fidelity and Diligence, so as to give general Satisfaction to the whole City, and acquire the Character of an Excellent Magistrate. The Government, to testify their Approbation invited him to accept the Honour of Knighthood, which he very respectfully refused; upon which, being expostulated with, by some Friends, why he would refuse it, as he had a Fortune independent, and sufficient to support the Dignity? The facetious Alderman, who was both merry and wise, reply'd, 'My 'Friends, I intend for some time longer to continue to 'follow my Business, and do what will be necessary a-'bout the Shop; and would it not be ridiculous, and a 'Burlesque upon Knighthood, and bring the Order into 'Contempt, to hear it said, I saw Sir *Thomas Quin* scour-'ing the Skillet; or go for Sir *Thomas Quin*, and bid 'him haste to give me a Clyster.' I leave you all to apply the Story.—Thus you have heard two Reasons why I would not have Mr. *L-c-s* to be a Member of Parliament, namely, because he is a POOR MAN, and an APOTHECARY: And now I will give you a Third, that is, because he is a Sower of Sedition and a Make-bate, which I need not descend to Particulars to prove, it being so lately that he occasion'd the Feuds in our City, wherewith every body is acquainted. I do not take upon me to say, whether Things were conducted by the Aldermen in a proper or improper Method, but supposing the worst, what Call had Mr. *L-c-s* more than any one else, to be a

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Righter of Wrongs? It is an eſtabliſh'd Maxim, that what is every body's Buſineſs is No body's Buſineſs; his puſhing himſelf forward in ſuch a Caſe, ſhews him to have a Turbulent Spirit, and if he exerted it in his narrow Sphere, will he be quier, think ye, when his Sphere becomes more enlarged? His Pragmaticalneſs, that I here hint at, I am aware, is the Merit, upon which he ſets up, and indeed ſome Idolize him for it. But what Service has he done to any one, by it? Yea, rather, has he not done to many, the greateſt Diſſervice imaginable? He, forſooth, has open'd the Eyes of his Brother Freemen, and ſhewn them that they are naked, and ſtripp'd of their moſt valuable Priviledges, which makes them uneaſy and diſturb'd, as Matters will never be otherwiſe. Surely it had been better to have remain'd in their Ignorance, wherein they knew no Sorrow, than to have their Underſtanding awaken'd to diſquiet themſelves in vain. Then he has made them to depart from Chriſtian Charity, and to be ſet with all Rancour and Ill-will, againſt every One whoſe Title is Alderman, let the Man be ever ſo valuable in himſelf. Like the *Phariſees* of old, judging every *Publican* to be a Sinner, with whom no Communication was to be held, tho ſome were ſo upright, as for every Wrong, done by them, to reſtore four fold. Surely Good People, You, who have been ſo deluded, as once to have join'd yourſelves with him, will no more approve of his Merit, but reckon him the Peſt of Society, and if ye will retain any Affection for your unlucky Champion, ſhew it for him by diſſuading him from his Ambitious Enterprize, for, I apprehend, that ſhould he ſucceed, He would certainly be ruin'd; for, if he was ſo inſolent, as to dare to rail at, and abuſe Men of High Rank, and unblemiſh'd Characters, I mean the Judges, when there was nothing to ſcreen him from their Laſh, but, happily for him, the Contempt they held him in, what might he not attempt, if he had Priviledge to protect him? But tho' his Perſon might be ſacred without Doors, it would not be ſo within, the Honourable Houſe would bear no Rudeneſs from their ſputtering Cacky-Ned of a Brother, he would be call'd to Orders, and it is more than probable, his Reſtleſsneſs and Conceit, would prompt him to diſobey, and what would be the Conſequence, but that his Children's Bread muſt go to pay the Fees of his Confinement, and after a while, he would be expell'd the Houſe.——I have yet another Reaſon to offer, why it would be a Scandal and Diſgrace to you to elect Mr. *L-c-s*, and which ought to fire your Indignation againſt him, as I confeſs, it has

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mine, that is, his Ungentlemanlike, unprecedented Method of setting out, by extolling himself and casting scurrilous Reflections on one, that stands Candidate with him. He might have been allowed, to praise himself as much as he would, as Self-praise is no Praise, but to depreciate another in the same Race, with him, bespeaks a base ungenerous Soul. Anonymous Writers, like myself, have frequently recommended one Competitor at the Expence of another, but never before, did any Candidate himself set his Name to a Paper, to vilify those that contested with him. Decency has always hitherto been observed in putting up for Elections; and however, Candidates might be at Variance, and averse, to each other, outwardly they made a Show of acknowledging, there was much Merit and Worth in their Opposites, and mutually treated one another like Gentlemen. And here I have done with Mr. *L-c-s*, about whom, I had not concern'd myself, but for his villainous Treatment of Sir S---L C,-k.

As for the other Candidates, I have no Objection to any of them, as I cannot say they would be a Disgrace to you. They are reputed Men of Substance, in whom it is not Arrogance to seek to wear a Feather in their Cap, which is pretty much the Case, when one sets up to be a Member in *Ireland*. It is no rational Objection that one is of foreign Extraction, for, being incorporate with us, he is become one of ourselves. Foreigners certainly deserve Encouragement, and wise States, like skilful Gardeners, bestow extraordinary Nursing upon exotick Plants, that they may strike deeper Root, and take to our Soil. As I have charged Mr. *L-c-s* with being a Sower of Sedition, I think I can hardly get over saying, that Mr. *L-t--che* would have been better intitled to your Regard, if he had not heretofore been concern'd with that Busy-body.

As for Sir *S-m--l C--k*, as he has been so scandalously attack'd, I will take upon me to defend him. Mr. *L-c-s* attack'd him on unequal Terms; for, having had no Father himself, that is, that any body knows of, it was not fair, that he should cast Reflections upon Sir *S-m--l's*?

That Gentleman, whose Memory Mr. *L-c-s* makes so free with, how much soever his Conduct was censured afterwards, acted in Obedience to the Powers in Being, and in that, was certainly right, as it would have been Rebellion to have done otherwise. Who ever blamed any one in Office, for conforming to the Directions of *Oliver Cromwell*, while that Usurper bore Sway? And, therefore, why should old Sir *S-m--l's* Memory be reflected on, for complying with the Commands of his lawful Superiors? If what they commanded was wrong, they

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were chargeable with it, and not he; it was certainly his Business to obey. Ought he to have said, I see the Drift of your Politicks, and I will not comply with you? He might have suffer'd for being refractory to his Superiors, but could have had no Influence to alter their Measures by endeavouring to thwart their Schemes. — But it is said, That he was well affected to the Measures then pursuing: That may be, for in those Days were many errant *Tories*, that shortly after, when they saw the Blessings of the *Hanoverian* Succession, became true and honest *Whigs*. But suppose we should allow that old Sir *S-m--l* was, and always continued to be, a *Tory*, what then? Must young Sir *S-m--l* be a *Tory* too? This is very false Reasoning, and you may as well say, that Queen *Mary*, (Comfort to King *William*, of glorious Memory) was a Bigot to Popery, because her Father King *James* was so. Nor can you judge of Sir *S-m--l*'s Principles in Religion, and Affection for the present Government, by what has been his Behaviour ever since he has been left to act for himself, I am sure, to give my Opinion in his Favour, can have no Weight with you, and therefore I will let it alone.

But give me leave to say, that as he has asked you to pay him a Compliment, that is, that you will make Choice of him to wear in his Cap, a Feather at your Disposal. It is no presumption, nor unbecoming in him at all, to make such a Request, because he has Dignity and Fortune to support it, and, in his Turn, has served you, with much Applause, and greatly to your Satisfaction, at a Time when, it is probable, many others would not have been so faithful. In this he has a superior Title above the other Candidates to your Favour, for tho', if any of the rest had been in Office, they might have acted as Praiseworthily, yet not having been try'd, they cannot plead the same Merit; and you ought not to put in Competition the Services that others might do, with that which has been actually done. And it will be an Encouragement to others to serve you well, when they know you distinguish with your Regard, those that have. — More I need not add, only I would have you to take Notice, that I write this to the FREE, INDEPENDENT VOTERS. Those that are DEPENDENT, as where so many are in Trade, some must be, I would advise them, to consider their own Circumstances, and the Obligations they lie under, and vote according to the Desire of their best Friends, no matter who is the Candidate, tho' Mr. *L-c-s* himself.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your affectionate Well-wisher

As sure as I am

SOME-BODY.